

HUNGRY FOR SHIPS

Goodwin Sands, In the North Sea,
Swallow Them Pitilessly.

SCENE OF MANY TRAGEDIES.

These Greedy Shoals, That Mock Man's
Efforts to Tame Them, Once Gulped
Down a Fleet of War Vessels With
Over a Thousand Officers and Men.

From the steep rough shore of Deal, overlooking the ship swallowing Goodwin sands, many of the pilgrim fathers embarked for America, and their descendants, in visiting or leaving England, travel through the famous downs from which their stern progenitors set sail in search of perfect liberty. The Goodwins were then in the heyday of their evil reputation, and for unnumbered years they have been as much the graveyard of the narrow seas as Sable Island is of the Atlantic ocean. With fervent thankfulness the pilgrim fathers saw the last of those notorious and far-reaching shoals which break the vicious seas in gales and make them surge and roar like rapids and which, faithful to their treacherous character, appear on bright summer days as restful as golden plains, with blue and glorious rivers running through the countless channels.

Ships of battle, treasure ships, Indians with precious cargoes and emigrant ships have sailed as far as the Goodwins and there have been engulfed. Most travelers who skirt the coast between the Forelands see the gaunt remains of melancholy wrecks.

The romantic tale is told that the Goodwins were at one time a beautiful and fruitful island, the estate of Earl Goodwin, but that in 1007 they became a vast shoal because of "a turbulent rage of rain and an unheard of rage of the sea." The island disappeared and became "incredibly covered with sand." That has been the tradition for many centuries, and less than 200 years ago there was an alehouse keeper who declared that his oaken shuffleboard was made from a tree which grew on the Goodwins when they were an island.

A clerical investigator, however, who knew the publican sorrowfully classed him as a lying fellow. Although the tradition is generally credited, it seems far more likely that the Goodwins are formed by the strong run of the tide down the North sea and the tide up the strait of Dover, the two meeting off the Kentish coast and sweeping vast quantities of sand in a whirlpool shoal.

In those days of lumbering sailing craft, when vessels were completely at the mercy of the weather, there was little hope of keeping clear of the Goodwins unless the sands could be discerned and wind and tide were favorable. Every gale that blew gave tribute of life and vessel to the shoals.

There have been memorable disasters in recent years, even since steam became almost universal for marine propulsion, but the most noted calamities relate to the days of sail. Of all that have been put on record none is more terrible than the annihilation of an entire fleet of warships in the storm which devastated England in 1703. Thirteen warships anchored in the downs were swept from their moorings. Some were driven ashore. Five, including four sail of the line, were hurled toward the Goodwins and dashed to pieces. Nearly 1,100 officers and men perished, yet a handful were saved and brought to shore by men of Deal and Ramsgate and the little haven of the coast.

"Is the hard gray weather breeds hard Englishmen." The hardest and grayest British weather is that of the North sea. The Goodwins are at the southernmost part of the North sea, and there on the coast line overlooking the sands men battle ceaselessly with one of the sailors' most pitiless enemies. The Goodwins cannot be coaxed or engineered into submission.

They flout mastery and scorn domination and in their essentials remain what they have been for centuries. Man has tried repeatedly to bridle them, to find a foothold on their sinking bases. More than 300 years ago a scheme was formed to build a beacon or a lighthouse on the Goodwins, but it came to nothing. Long afterward attempts were made to raise a lighthouse, but the work was never finished. In 1841 an old ship was scuttled and was made a dead weight with ballast. A mast was put in her and bore a beacon, but only for a time. The greedy Goodwins swallowed all.

The only way to conquer the shoals is to gird them with buoys and lightships, and that has been so well accomplished that in fine weather the sands are marked as clearly on the waters as the hours are indicated on the dial of a watch. But fogs make beacons useless, and so rapid is the run of the sea in the swashes or channels of the sands that even in clear weather an experienced pilot may not get his vessel safely through the indicated tracks.—Walter Wood in Harper's Magazine.

Getting History Straight.

It has been shown that Washington was not the real author of his farewell address, nor Monroe of his doctrine, nor Sherman of his law. Presently we shall find out that Bright never had his disease, nor Mason and Dixon a line on anything. And perhaps St. Vitus never danced.—New York Mail.

In order to love mankind we must not expect too much of them.—Helen.

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**PLANT TREES IN
SMALL TOWNS**

Too Many of Them Are Being
Safely Neglected.

GET BUSY AND CLEAN UP.

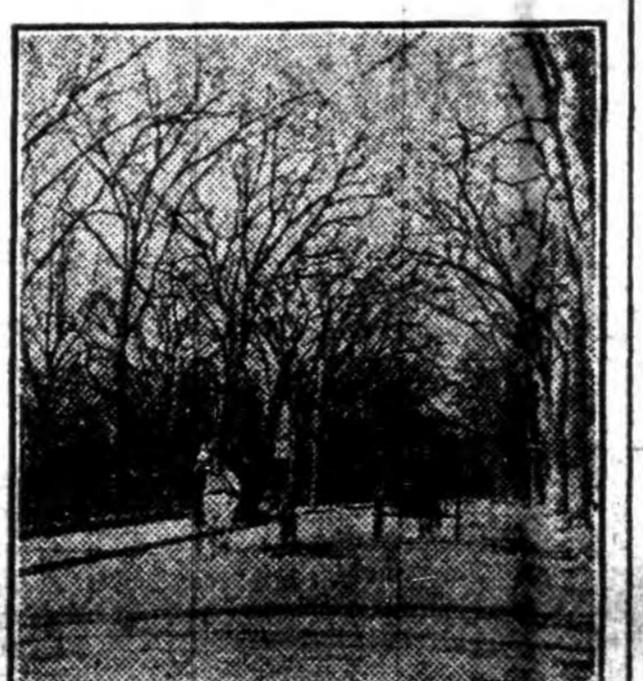
J. H. MILLER, Kansas Expert, Tells What
Every Incorporated Town Should Do
to Make Itself Attractive—Plant
Trees Everywhere.

People are in the habit of expecting to
see beautiful streets and yards and
parks and parkings in large cities, but usually they forget the importance of
"fixing up" the small town.

"I am going to collect a thousand photographs of unsightly things in our small towns and show them all over the state," said J. H. Miller, director of college extension at the Kansas Agricultural college, recently. "Why is it that in many counties the worst roads are the small town streets? Why is it that in some small towns there are many streets without a tree in the parking? Why is it that in scores of small towns there are streets not graded, no parkings and no parks?"

Every incorporated town, Mr. Miller believes, should provide from one to six small parks of about quarter block and at least one park covering an entire block and then, while land is cheap, provide at least one acre park. The time is coming when every village will provide parks as naturally as it provides streets and alleys, and it will be found much cheaper than jails and juvenile courts.

Every incorporated town should have in its council a committee on beautifying the town. The mayor should also appoint a co-operating committee of three or five not in the council. These committees should plan



PLANT GOOD SHADE TREES EVERYWHERE.
for trees, shrubs, cleanups, neighborhood contests, etc. The main committee should be required to walk in a body at least once a month all through the town and out on every road and then walk back into town, trying to imagine what the impression of the town would be if the committee were seeing it for the first time.

If the railroad runs near or through the town this committee should take in "the sights" viewed daily by hundreds of strangers. They should have photographs taken of every badly kept place—front yard, back yard or alley—and exhibit the same in the postoffice until the place is improved. I know of one little town that plans to subscribe \$1,000 this year to advertise its advantages.

Every owner of a vacant lot should be urged to plant trees in the parking. Plant only one variety of tree on one street. Plant trees on the school grounds, in church lots and in the cemetery. Plant trees! Plant trees!

Clean up!

FREE FLOWER SEED.

Nashville School Children Asked to
Make Zinnia Plots.

As a step in carrying forward the work the City Beautiful association of Nashville, Tenn., purchased from a local wholesale seed firm quite a supply of zinnia seed, the flower adopted by the association, and is having this seed put into small packages preparatory to giving one package to every pupil in the public schools.

The package will be accompanied by a card to be signed by the pupil acknowledging its receipt and binding him to plant the seed and properly care for the plants.

Members of the association believe that if they can succeed in enlisting the interest of such a large body of children that a very decided step will have been taken to advance the purpose of the movement, which is to give the city a more beautiful aspect and so help to make the home more attractive.

Studies Rat Migration.

Health department officials of Seattle, Wash., have released twenty-five dyed rodents for purposes of identification. Each rat has a price of \$2 on its head, whether dead or alive. The purpose is to trace the drift of the rodent population as it goes from one section of the city to another. "At this time of the year rats leave the winter front, where they stay during the winter months, and make their way to hill and residence portions of the city," said Health Commissioner Crichton. This is one of the precautionary measures taken in connection with plague prevention work carried on by the different cities on the Pacific coast.

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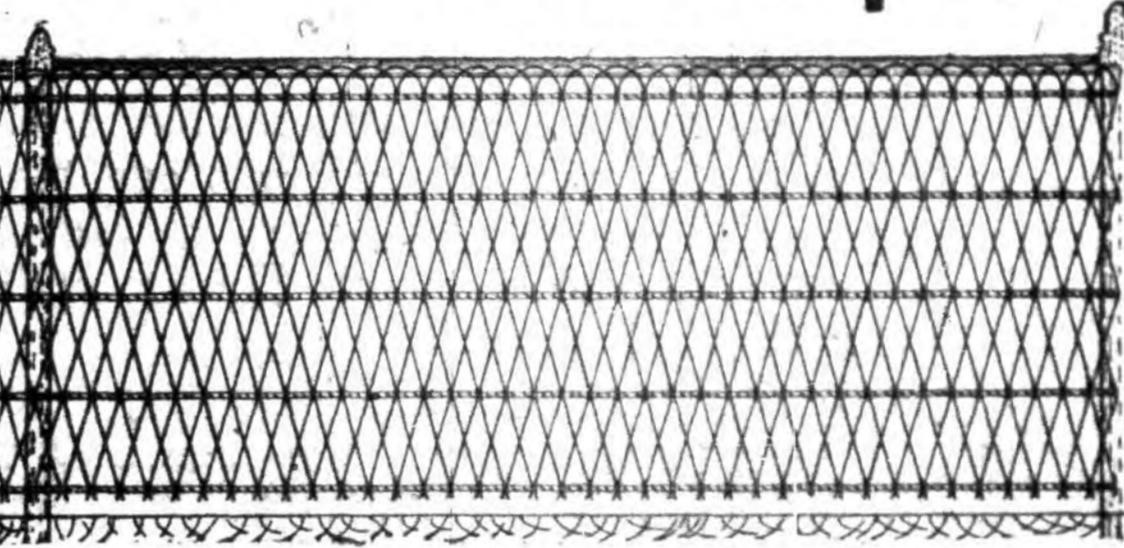
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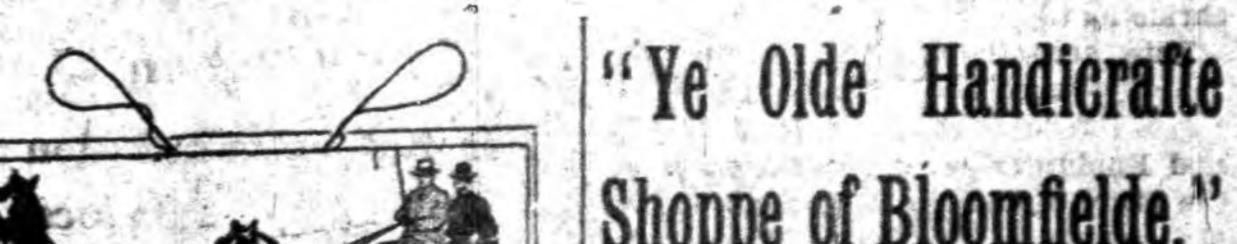
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